In the Claims

The listing of claims will replace without prejudice or disclaimer all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Claims 1-11 (cancelled)

12. (Currently amended) A device for control of the flow through a production tube placed in an oil well, the device comprising a portion of the production tube provided with through orifices and a protection system comprising several add-on sectors assembled in a clamped arrangement to ~~around the portion of the tube such that said sectors~~ form a protective envelope surrounding the tube, each add-on sector being provided with an associated inner stiffener penetrating into the portion of the production tube through at least one through orifice, at least one of the add-on sectors being provided with at least one opening extending through the sector and its associated inner stiffener; said protection system providing the device with resistance to wear by erosion, the device also comprising a sliding sleeve that can be controlled to adjust the flow.

13. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the protective envelope surrounding the tube is around an external surface of the said portion of the production tube.

14. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the add-on sectors are fixed onto the said portion of the production tube by two clamping rings provided around the said portion of the production tube.

15. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein each add-on sector comprises an upper groove and a lower groove located at its upper end and its lower end respectively, the upper groove and the lower groove being designed to hold an upper clamping ring and a lower clamping ring, respectively.

16. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein the sliding sleeve is capable of sliding on the add-on sectors in order to close the openings in a known manner.

17. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein each add-on sector comprises several openings with different shapes.

18. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein each add-on sector and its associated inner stiffener are superposed and each is approximately in a shape of an annular portion.

19. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein a shape of the inner stiffener of each add-on sector is approximately complementary to a shape of the through orifice in which it is located.

20. (Withdrawn) The device of claim 12, wherein the inner stiffener of each add-on sector is provided with a seal that matches the inner part of the through orifice in which it is located.

21. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein each add-on sector is made from a material selected from group consisting of tungsten and ceramic.

22. (Previously presented) The device of claim 12, wherein it comprises several sets of sectors, each set having different openings.

23. (Currently amended) A device for control of the flow through a production tube placed in an oil well, the device comprising a portion of the production tube provided with through orifices and a protection system comprising several add-on sectors assembled in a clamped arrangement to form a protective envelope surrounding the tube,~~around the portion of the tube,~~ each add-on sector being provided with an associated inner stiffener penetrating into the portion of the production tube through at least one through orifice, at least one of the add-on sectors being provided with at least one opening extending through the sector and its associated inner stiffener; said protection system providing the device with resistance to wear by erosion, the device also comprising a sliding sleeve that can be controlled to adjust the flow; and said ~~protection system having a clamping~~clamped arrangement for clamping said add-on sectors to the tube being independent of a geometric shape of the through orifices of the tube.

24. (New) A device for control of the flow through a production tube placed in an oil well, the device comprising a portion of the production tube provided with through orifices and a

protection system comprising several add-on sectors assembled around the portion of the tube such that said sectors form a protective envelope surrounding the portion of the tube, each add-on sector being provided with an associated inner stiffener penetrating into the portion of the production tube through at least one through orifice, at least one of the add-on sectors being provided with at least one opening extending through the sector and its associated inner stiffener; said protection system providing the device with resistance to wear by erosion, the device also comprising a sliding sleeve that can be controlled to adjust the flow and wherein each add-on sector comprises several openings with different shapes.

25. (New) A device for control of the flow through a production tube placed in an oil well, the device comprising a portion of the production tube provided with through orifices and a protection system comprising several add-on sectors assembled around the portion of the tube such that said sectors form a protective envelope surrounding the portion of the tube, each add-on sector being provided with an associated inner stiffener penetrating into the portion of the production tube through at least one through orifice, at least one of the add-on sectors being provided with at least one opening extending through the sector and its associated inner stiffener; said protection system providing the device with resistance to wear by erosion, the device also comprising a sliding sleeve that can be controlled to adjust the flow and several sets of sectors, each set having different openings.